

HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND Office of the County Auditor

FISCAL IMPACT NOTE

Summary of Legislation

Sponsor: Introduced by President Boniface at the request of the County Executive

Bill Number 13-22, As Amended

Solid Waste Management Plan Update

An ACT to repeal and reenact, with amendments, Section 4.4.3 Evaluation of the Harford Waste-to-Energy Facility (HWTEF), and Section 5.5 Waste to Energy, of the Harford County Solid Waste Management Plan; and to add new Section 5.6 Exploration of New Solid Waste Transfer Station, Recycling Transfer Station, and Second Homeowner Drop-Off Facility and new Section 5.7 Exploration of Other Solid Waste Disposal Solutions, to the Harford County Solid Waste Management Plan, adopted on March 1, 2005 by Bill No. 05-02, and incorporated by reference in Section 109-8, Solid waste management plan, of Article I, General Provisions, of Chapter 109, Environmental Control, of the Harford County Code, as amended; to provide that the Harford Waste-to-Energy Facility will not be expanded; to provide that other alternatives for long-term solid waste disposal were analyzed and that Harford County's interests are best served by partnering with Baltimore County to deliver Harford County trash to the Eastern Landfill Complex owned by Baltimore County for disposal; and generally relating to the Harford County Solid Waste Management Plan.

Bill Number 13-24

Agreement to Amend Waste Supply Contract

An ACT to provide the County Executive or his designee with the authorization to execute, on behalf of Harford County, Maryland, an Agreement to Amend the Amended and Restated Waste Supply Contract with Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority, in substantially the form attached hereto; to extend the Contract termination date to conform with the termination date of the Amended and Restated Steam Purchase Agreement between the Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority and the United States Army; and generally relating to the Waste Supply Contract.

These bills will take effect 60 days after they are adopted.

Fiscal Impact Summary and Analysis

There is no immediate fiscal impact to these pieces of legislation or the amendment to bill 12-22.

Currently, Harford County deposits some of its solid waste at the Harford Waste Disposal Center (HDWC, landfill), but most solid waste is incinerated it at the Waste-To-Energy (WTE) facility. The facility is operating on behalf of the County by Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority (the Authority). The WTE property lease and steam sale agreements with the United State Army end in 2016 and will not be renewed.

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Harford County explored many options to manage its solid waste and determined that the County's interests are best served by partnering with Baltimore County to develop a regional approach to solid waste disposal. The approach will allow the County to transfer all solid waste and single stream recyclables to the Baltimore County landfill in White Marsh, Maryland. Bill 13-22 revises the Harford County Solid Waste Management Plan to incorporate this solution into the Harford County Solid Waste Management Plan, as part of the County Code. To address the transition period, Bill 13-24 authorizes the County Executive to approve an extension of the Waste Supply Contract with the Authority which would continue operation of the WTE facility through 2016. Other terms of the contract will be unchanged.

The Master Plan and its elements outline a plan that will meet the County's goals and be consistent with the existing Master Plan Elements. The element plans detail the County's goals and intentions and require periodic review and update by County officials. They do not require specific projects, but instead set forth guidelines and recommendations for new projects. The County will have to absorb the costs of implementing the goals of the Plan through the County's Capital Improvement Program and Operating Budget.

Additional Information

Previous Introductions: None

Fiscal Note History: Version 02 (6/3/2013) based on bill as amended on June 4, 2013. Fiscal Analysis was prepared by Chrystal Brooks, County Auditor. Inquiries may be directed to (410)638-3161.